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VERMONT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR

1983

STATE OF VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
WATERBURY
05670-0000

1 December 1983

The Honorable Richard A. Snelling
Governor
State of Vermont
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Dear Governor Snelling:

In accordance with the provisions of Title 3, Vermont Statutes Annotated, Section 208, it is my privilege to submit the Annual Report of the Department of Public Safety for Fiscal Year 1983.

Respectfully submitted

Paul R. Philbrook
Commissioner

PRP/ks
Enclosure

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FORWARD

As of June 30, 1983 (FY 1983 ending), the authorized strength of the Department was 393, an increase of four positions over the previous year. The new positions were a typist and two clerk dispatchers in the Support Services Program and a typist in the Criminal Investigation Program. The number of sworn officers remained unchanged at 264.

The following table illustrates the distribution of personnel within the Department.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
AUTHORIZED/ACTUAL PERSONNEL STRENGTH
FISCAL YEAR 1983

PROGRAM	STATE POLICE AUTH.	STATE POLICE ACT.	CLASSIFIED AUTH.	CLASSIFIED ACT.	EXEMPT AUTH.	EXEMPT ACT.	TOTAL AUTH.	TOTAL ACT.	VACANCIES*
Administration	1	1	16	16	3	3	20	20	
Civil Defense			13	13	1	1	14	14	
Criminal Invest.	53	53	2	2			55	55	
Law Enforcement	195	191	69	68			264	259	5
Support Services	15	15	25	24			40	39	1
TOTAL	264	260	125	123	4	4	393	387	6

* Vacancies shown are those existing as of June 30, 1983.

For purposes of fiscal accounting and for line accountability, the Department is divided into five funding areas or programs. These are: Administration, Civil Defense, Criminal Investigation, Law Enforcement and Support Services. The following financial report for FY 1983 and the ensuing narrative are divided in this fashion.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1983
1 July 1982 - 30 June 1983

PROGRAM	REVISED FY 1983 APPROPRIATION	FY 1983 EXPENDITURES	REVERSION
Administration	$ 499,000	$ 498,963	$ 37
Law Enforcement	9,270,221	9,228,709	41,512
Support Services	1,673,364	1,666,277	7,087
Criminal Investigation	2,353,178	2,320,088	33,090
Civil Defense	617,205	577,162	40,043
TOTAL	$14,412,968	$14,291,199	$121,769

SOURCE OF FUNDS	REVISED FY 1983 APPROPRIATION	FY 1983 EXPENDITURES	REVERSION
General Fund	$ 6,371,068	$ 6,331,129	$ 39,939
Highway Fund	7,016,754	6,993,105	23,649
Federal Funds [a]	438,066	402,843	35,223
Special Funds	85,000	81,087	3,913
Interdepartmental Transfer	502,080	483,035	19,045
TOTAL	$14,412,968	$14,291,199	$121,769

[a] Federal Funds, although shown as a "reversion", are carried forward into the First Quarter of State FY 1984 (Last Quarter of Federal FY 1983).

SECTION 1

ADMINISTRATION

The Division of Administrative Services provides the Accounting, Personnel/Payroll and Supply Services for, and in support of, the Operating Divisions of Public Safety. This program is also responsible for the administration of the Snowmobile and Motorboat Registration Programs and licensing of Explosives Handlers.

During FY 1983, the Accounting Section was reduced from five to four positions. This reduction was made possible through improved management techniques; greater reliance on the State's automated Financial Management Information System, both in the form of data printouts and through direct access of financial information by a video terminal. Continued utilization of word processing equipment within the Division has also contributed to workload reductions in the Accounting Section.

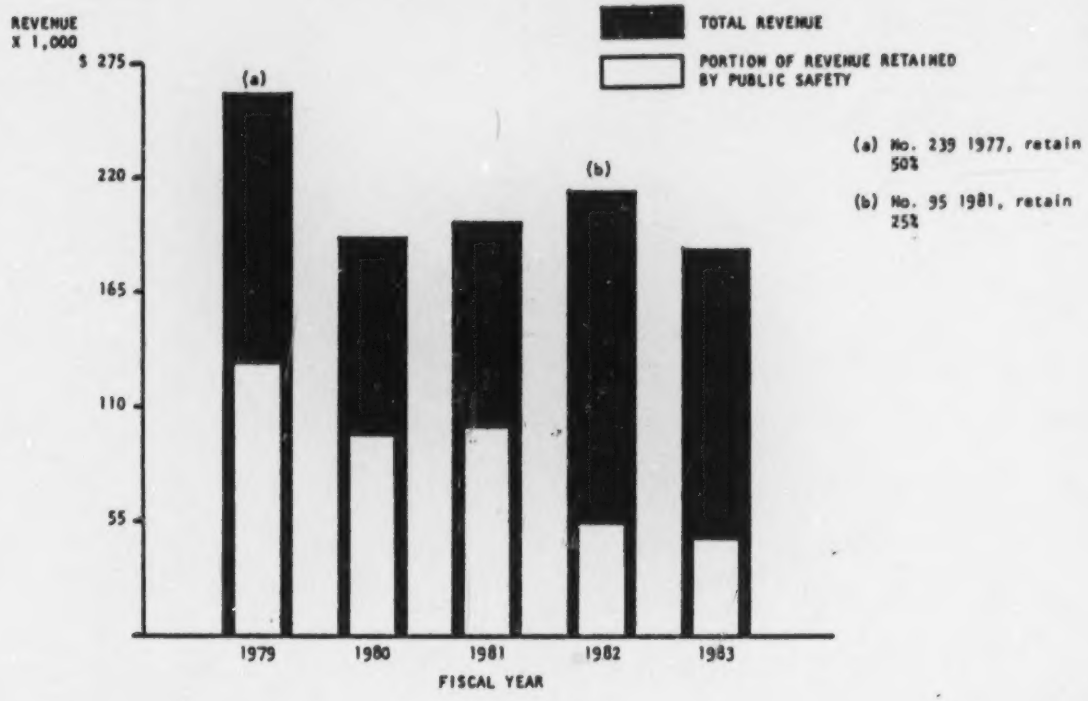
EXPLOSIVES LICENSING:

The licensing of persons who handle explosives in Vermont has been required since 1971. The number of licenses issued and revenues generated has always been relatively low and has varied only moderately from year to year. During FY 1983, $1,747 was collected from licensing fees, the highest revenue figure in the past five years. Fiscal Year 1980 was the low point in receipts at $1,482.

SNOWMOBILE REGISTRATION:

FY 1983 had the worst performance of the last five registration years. Only $185,896 in registration revenues were collected. While the total accumulated snowfall (as reported by the Burlington Weather Station for their location only) in FY 1983 was only slightly less than that for FY 1982, it came very late in the year, too late for many people to consider renewing their registrations. By contrast, FY 1982 was the second best registration year in the last five years, with receipts of $214,193.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
SNOWMOBILE REGISTRATION RECEIPTS - PERFORMANCE
FIVE FISCAL YEARS 1979 - 1983



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MOTORBOAT REGISTRATION:

Only motor-equipped boats are required to be registered in Vermont. Boating registrations and revenues have shown moderate but steady growth over the last five years, as shown in the table below. Funds from this program are not retained by the Department, but are deposited directly to the General Fund.

MOTORBOAT REGISTRATIONS AND REVENUE

Fiscal Year	Registrations	Revenue
1979	25,555	$83,686
1980	26,068	86,080
1981	26,743	88,722
1982	27,529	92,336
1983	29,278	97,159

Title 31 V.S.A. § 812 (A) provides that 25% of the fees collected from registration activities are to be retained by the Department to pay for registration and enforcement activities. Seventy-five percent of the fees collected are provided to the Agency of Environmental Conservation, and used primarily for snowmobile trail development and maintenance. Fees retained in FY 1983 were barely adequate to pay registration costs and no funds were available for allocation to enforcement.

SNOWMOBILE REGISTRATIONS, REVENUE AND SNOWFALL DATA

Fiscal Year	Registrations	Revenue	Snowfall [a]
1979	29,505	$ 259,960	84.3"
1980	21,430	191,283	39.6"
1981	22,107	198,327	64.7"
1982	23,827	214,193	81.5"
1983	19,971	185,896	79.8"

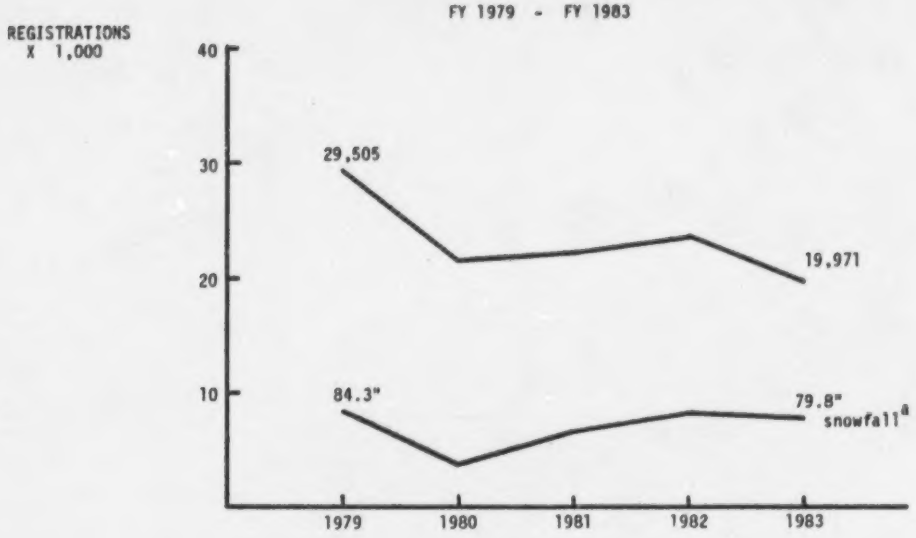
It has been (and continues to be) the position of the Department that the preceeding registration functions are not ones that properly belong in the Department of Public Safety. We have supported legislation to move both Motorboat and Snowmobile Registration to the Department of Motor Vehicles and will continue to do so.

[a] Snowfall data provided by the Burlington Weather Station for that station only.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

SNOWMOBILE REGISTRATIONS AND SNOWFALL TRENDS

FY 1979 - FY 1983



[a] Provided by the Burlington Weather Station, for that station only.

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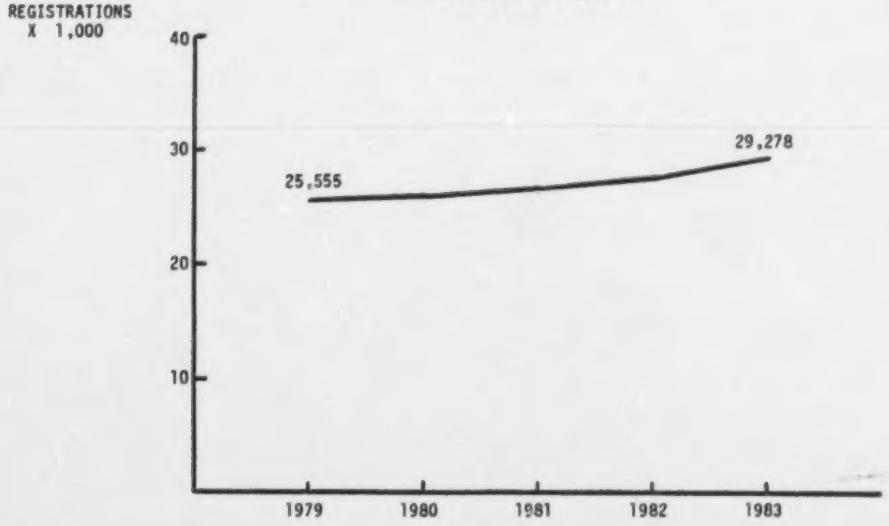
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTORBOAT REGISTRATIONS - FIVE YEAR TREND

FY 1979 - FY 1983



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SECTION 2

CIVIL DEFENSE DIVISION

The Division of Civil Defense was created by Act Number 224, §4 of the Acts of 1951, otherwise known as the "Vermont Civil Defense Act of 1951". The purpose for which the division was created was " . . . to protect the Public Peace, Health, and Safety and to preserve the lives and property of the people of the State . . .".

The division is responsible for providing coordination among various agencies of state and local government and the federal government in mitigation of natural and man-made disasters and emergencies. Emergency management assistance and training is provided throughout the state by the various program staff members of Civil Defense.

The Hazardous Materials Response Plan, Vermont Radiological Emergency Response Plan (in support of fixed nuclear facilities) and the state-wide Emergency Disaster Preparedness Plan are the three most significant emergency documents for which Civil Defense is responsible. All plans involve coordination of effort among many state agencies, local governments and the federal government in response to various emergency conditions.

During FY 1983, the division responded to 28 calls related to Hazardous Materials incidents and 26 calls involving flooding, power outages and water shortages. Two test exercises were conducted involving response to nuclear power plant emergencies. These were to specifically exercise the Radiological Emergency Response Plan as it relates to the Vermont Yankee plants in Vernon and Yankee Rowe in Rowe, Massachusetts.

A Hazardous Materials incident test exercise was also conducted during FY 1983.

Several major training programs were conducted by staff personnel during FY 1983:

- Five Public Officials Conferences
- Six Radiological Monitoring Courses
- A Joint Aerial Monitoring Exercise between New Hampshire and Vermont Civil Air Patrol.
- A Radiological Defense Officer Course and an Instructor Workshop
- Radiological Emergency Response Training for State Police

During the Spring of 1983 the Flood Level Assessment Project, a joint venture of Civil Defense and Water Resources, began. River gauges and rain gauges were installed along the Mississquoi, Lamoille and Winooski Rivers.

Major staffing additions, approved late in FY 1983, represent a major enhancement of civil defense planning capability. Two new Nuclear Civil Protection Planners (NCP), a Radiological Systems Maintenance Technician and a State Radiological Defense Officer were authorized by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and approved by the Joint Fiscal Committee. These positions and their related expenses are 100% federally funded. This brings staffing to a total of 14 positions. Seven positions are funded 50/50 state and federal; six positions are 100% federally funded and one position is funded 100% with federal dollars, but an equivalent "In-Kind" matching effort by the State is required.

Seven Vermont communities receive funding support for their civil defense programs through the Civil Defense Division. These are Rockingham, Brattleboro, Springfield, Rutland, Burlington, Barre Town and Montpelier.

Four major problem areas can be identified. These are:

- Lack of an adequate State Emergency Operating Center (EOC)
- Need for increased funding support for civil defense programs at both the state and local levels
- Inconsistency in the configuration of the various administrative districts around the state
- Lack of a single entry into the Emergency Broadcast System (EBS)
- Over dependence on hard wire communications.

The concept of the Integrated Emergency Management System, introduced by FEMA early in 1983, has changed the emphasis in nearly all federally-mandated programs of the Division.

A generic approach to emergency planning, based on all-hazard analysis for individual communities as well as the entire state, will be the new thrust of these programs.

SECTION 3

CRIMINAL DIVISION

The Criminal Division is charged with the responsibility of monitoring, evaluating and investigating criminal activity throughout the State. This is the non-uniformed (plain-clothes) division of the Vermont State Police.

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY (Offenses Known to State Police):

The statistical information found in this section is derived from reports submitted by State Police Officers (uniformed and non-uniformed) and refers only to offenses reported to the Vermont State Police. With the exception of the Crime of Murder, the statistical information presented does not include the investigations conducted by local police agencies. While the statistics shown are probably representative of trends on a statewide basis, they do not represent all crimes which occurred.

In order to project the frequency of offenses per 100,000 population, we have estimated the population served by the Vermont State Police. Based upon the most recent census and the number and location of local police agencies in the state, we estimate that 45% of the state population is primarily served by State Police Officers. Undoubtedly we service a greater percentage of the population with respect to major crimes such as Murder, as local police departments usually seek State Police assistance when required to investigate such offenses. As the number of Murders is a statewide number, its rate per 100,000 is calculated on a total state population basis. The crime statistics in this report also relate to a fiscal year commencing 1 July as opposed to calendar year statistics.

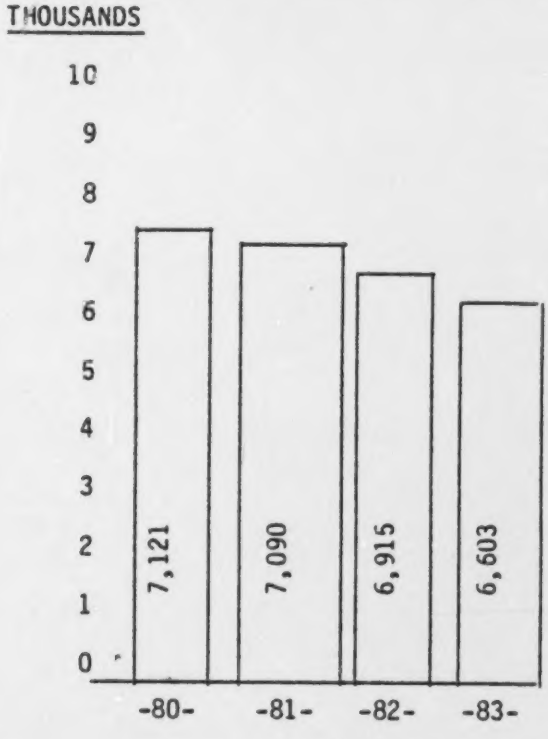
MAJOR AND MINOR CRIMES:

For the purposes of this report, Major Crimes are defined as Larceny, Breaking and and Entering, Auto Theft, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault and Murder (SEE: Table V). Arson, though reported to the FBI as a Major Crime for federal statistical purposes, is separately dealt with in this report.

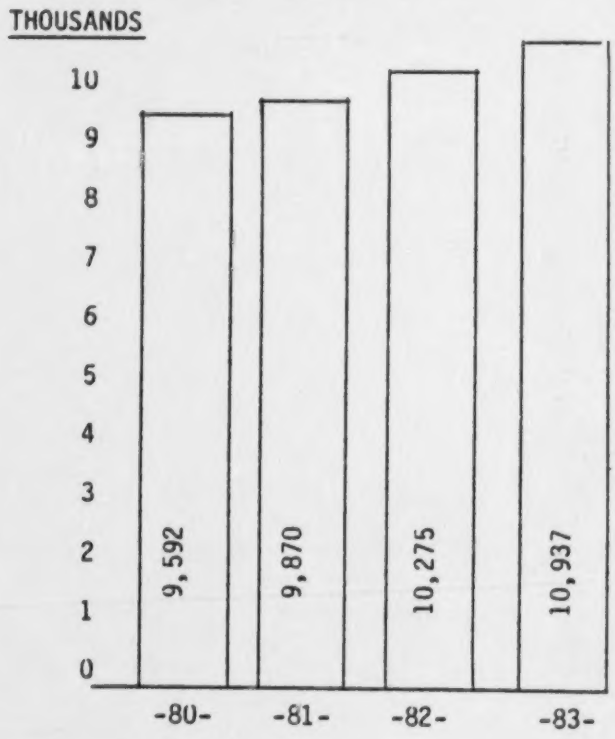
Minor Crimes include offenses such as Simple Assault, Sexual Assault other than Rape, Forgery, Fraud, etc. (SEE: Table VIII).

Criminal complaints reported to State Police during FY 83 remained virtually constant with that recorded during the previous year. Major Crimes in total actually declined by 4.5% from 6,915 offenses in FY 82 to 6,603 offenses in FY 83. Minor Offenses totalling 10,275 in FY 82 increased by 6.4% to a total of 10,937 in FY 83.

MAJOR CRIME COMPLAINTS



MINOR CRIME COMPLAINTS



HOMICIDE/MURDERS

Nine (9) Homicides occurred in Vermont during Fiscal Year 1983, four (4) of which occurred in State Police jurisdiction. Two (2) of the Homicides were the result of the Careless Use of Firearms and the remaining seven (7) were classified as Murder. Murder is a willfully committed Homicide.

Of the seven (7) Murders that occurred, three (3) of the victims died as a result of Gunshot Wounds, three (3) died as a result of Blows to the Head by a Blunt Instrument, and one (1) died from Manual Strangulation.

One (1) of the Murders remains unsolved. Vermont, therefore, maintained a clearance rate of 89% for the Crime or Murder.

RAPE:

Complaints of Rape reported to State Police increased 6.6% from the previous Fiscal Year. In FY 1982, 61 cases were reported and in FY 1983, there were 65 cases. Of these, six (6) proved to be unfounded. The clearance rate for Rape was 59.3% for Fiscal Year 1983.

OTHER OFFENSES:

Tables V and VI present a 15-year tabulation of major crimes reported to State Police, their frequency per 100,000 population, and their relationship to the national average per 100,000 population. The reader is reminded that, with the exception of Murder, only 45% of the state population is utilized as a population base on which to compare these statistics. Additionally, the rate per 100,000 does not correspond with that provided in previous annual and biennial reports as this rate has been recalculated on a 45% population base.

Table VII depicts the population and rate utilized in these calculations.

Table VIII depicts Minor Crimes investigated by State Police during the Fiscal Year and the relationship to minor crime investigations for FY 1982.

Table IX depicts the Major Crime comparison between Fiscal Year 1982 and Fiscal Year 1983.

TABLE V

VERMONT STATE POLICE
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

FY 68 - 83

YEAR	LARCENY	RATE PER 100,000*	B&E	RATE PER 100,000*	AUTO THEFT	RATE PER 100,000*	RAPE	RATE PER 100,000*	ROBBERY	RATE PER 100,000*	AGG ASSLT	RATE PER 100,000*	** MURDER	RATE PER 100,000***
1968	992	503.5	1200	609.1	87	44.2	30	15.2	6	3.0	12	6.1	5	1.2
1969	1315	657.5	1499	749.5	140	70.0	25	12.5	7	3.5	17	8.5	9	2.1
1970	1489	745.5	1575	787.5	118	59.0	35	17.5	12	6.0	19	9.5	2	0.5
1971	2239	1103.0	1924	947.8	155	76.4	40	19.7	18	8.9	42	20.7	5	1.1
1972	1536	754.6	2135	1036.4	202	98.1	43	20.9	18	8.7	79	38.3	11	2.4
1973	2159	1033.0	2089	999.5	176	84.2	54	25.8	19	9.1	67	32.1	2	0.4
1974	1661	783.5	2503	1180.6	214	100.9	50	23.6	19	9.0	49	23.1	7	1.5
1975	2116	984.2	2358	1096.7	263	122.3	53	24.7	32	14.9	69	32.1	8	1.7
1976	2253	1028.8	2559	1168.5	310	141.6	48	21.9	35	16.0	65	29.7	7	1.5
1977	2680	1207.2	2370	1067.6	319	143.7	36	16.2	45	20.3	152	68.5	14	3.0
1978	2521	1120.4	2416	1073.8	446	198.2	49	21.7	20	8.9	119	52.9	18	2.7
1979	2454	1076.3	2436	1068.4	404	177.2	46	26.2	31	13.6	92	40.4	9	1.9
1980	3117	1355.2	3380	1469.6	434	188.7	58	25.2	26	11.3	97	42.2	9	1.8
1981	3135	1339.7	3296	1408.5	409	174.8	75	32.1	43	18.4	118	50.4	14	2.7
1982	3290	1408.6	2970	1271.6	433	185.4	61	26.1	38	16.2	117	50.1	14	2.7
1983	3315	1398.7	2679	1130.3	435	183.5	65	27.4	28	11.8	77	32.5	7	1.3

*Rates per 100,000 are not as reported in previous fiscal reports - These rates have been recalculated on a base of 45% of estimated population.
**Incidents of Murder are the total number of Murders known to have occurred within Vermont.
***Calculated on a total statewide population basis.

TABLE VI

CRIMINAL STATISTICS
COMPARISON OF NATIONAL CRIME RATES TO CRIME RATES-STATE POLICE

1968 - 1982

(RATES PER 100,000 POPULATION*)
1982 IS LATEST YEAR FOR FBI STATISTICS

	LARCENY		B&E		AUTO THEFT		RAPE		ROBBERY		AGG ASSAULT		MURDER	
YEAR	SP	NATL.	SP	NATL.	SP	NATL.	SP	NATL.	SP	NATL.	SP	NATL.	SP	NATL.
1968	503.5	636.0	609.1	915.1	44.2	389.1	15.2	15.5	3.0	131.0	6.1	141.3	1.2	6.8
1969	657.5	749.3	749.5	965.5	70.0	431.8	12.5	18.1	3.5	147.4	8.5	151.8	2.1	7.2
1970	745.5	859.4	787.5	1067.7	59.0	453.5	17.5	18.3	6.0	171.5	9.5	162.4	0.5	7.8
1971	1103.0	909.2	947.8	1148.3	76.4	456.5	19.7	20.3	8.9	187.1	20.7	176.8	1.1	8.5
1972	754.6	882.6	1036.4	1126.1	98.1	423.1	20.9	22.3	8.7	179.9	38.3	186.6	2.4	8.9
1973	1033.0	-0-	999.5	1210.8	84.2	440.1	25.8	24.3	9.1	182.4	32.1	198.4	0.4	9.3
1974	783.5	-0-	1180.6	1429.0	100.9	460.6	23.6	26.1	9.0	208.8	23.1	214.2	1.5	9.7
1975	984.2	-0-	1096.7	1525.9	122.3	469.4	24.7	26.3	14.9	218.2	32.1	227.4	1.7	9.6
1976	1028.8	-0-	1168.5	1439.4	141.6	446.1	21.9	26.4	16.0	195.8	29.7	228.7	1.5	8.8
1977	1207.2	2729.9	1067.6	1410.9	143.7	447.6	16.2	29.1	20.3	187.1	68.5	241.5	3.0	8.8
1978	1120.4	2743.9	1073.8	1423.7	198.2	454.7	21.7	30.8	8.9	191.3	52.9	255.9	2.7	9.0
1979	1076.3	2988.4	1068.4	1499.1	177.2	498.5	26.1	34.5	13.6	212.1	40.4	279.1	1.9	9.7
1980	1355.2	3156.3	1469.6	1668.2	188.7	494.6	25.2	36.4	11.3	243.5	42.2	290.6	1.8	10.2
1981	1339.7	3122.3	1408.5	1632.1	174.8	468.7	32.1	35.6	18.4	250.6	50.4	280.9	2.7	9.8
1982	1408.6	3069.8	1271.6	1475.2	185.4	452.8	26.1	33.6	38	231.9	50.1	280.8	2.7	9.1

*Rates per 100,000 are not as reported in previous Fiscal Reports - These rates have been recalculated on a base of 45% of estimated population.

TABLE VII

POPULATION DATA SELECTED YEARS

1960-1985

	YEAR	POPULATION	45%	100,000
CENSUS	1960	389,881	175,447	1.75
	1961	395,630	178,034	1.78
	1962	401,465	180,659	1.81
	1963	407,386	183,324	1.83
	1964	413,394	186,027	1.86
	1965	419,490	188,771	1.89
	1966	425,677	191,555	1.92
	1967	431,954	194,379	1.94
	1968	438,324	197,246	1.97
	1969	444,788	200,155	2.00
CENSUS	1970	444,732	200,129	2.00
	1971	451,291	203,081	2.03
	1972	457,946	206,076	2.06
	1973	464,700	209,115	2.09
	1974	371,553	212,199	2.12
	1975	478,564	215,328	2.15
	1976	485,564	218,504	2.19
	1977	492,724	221,726	2.22
	1978	499,991	224,996	2.25
	1979	507,364	228,314	2.28
CENSUS	1980	511,456	230,155	2.30
	1981	518,999	233,550	2.34
	1982	526,653	236,994	2.37
	1983	534,419	240,489	2.41
	1984	542,301	244,036	2.44
	1985	550,298	247,634	2.48

INTERCENSAL RATE - 1.47474% based on average rate 1790-1980.

TABLE VIII Fiscal 1983

MINOR CRIME COMPARISON

	1982	1983	% Increase/Decrease
Forgery	100	114	+ 14.0
Fraud	168	195	+ 16.1
Bad Checks	521	461	- 11.5
Embezzlement	41	31	- 24.4
Stolen Property	241	268	+ 11.2
Unlawful Mischief	1,672	2,103	+ 25.8
Unlawful Trespass	420	563	+ 34.0
Simple Assault	754	706	- 6.4
Reckless Endangering	59	72	+ 22.0
Disorderly Conduct	536	708	+ 32.1
Other Breach of Peace	325	411	+ 26.5
Theft of Services	91	97	+ 6.6
Kidnapping	22	21	- 4.5
Lewd & Lascivious	88	68	- 22.7
Other Sex Offense	39	40	+ 2.6
Fires	468	465	- 0.6
Untimely Deaths	264	236	- 10.6
Bomb Threats	12	15	+ 25.0
Drug Investigations	386	433	+ 12.2
Liquor Violation	60	82	+ 36.7
Weapon Violation	13	17	+ 30.8
Escape	39	34	- 12.8
Miscellaneous	1,106	1,011	- 8.6
Motor Vehicle Compl.	2,101	2,011	- 4.3
Missing Person	500	538	+ 7.6
Assists	249	237	- 4.8
TOTAL	10,275	10,937	+ 6.4

TABLE IX

Fiscal 1983

MAJOR CRIME COMPARISON

REPORTED OFFENSES	1982	1983	%Increase/Decrease
B&E	2,970	2,679	- 9.8
Larceny	3,290	3,315	+ 0.8
Motor Vehicle Theft	433	435	+ 0.5
Robbery	38	28	-26.3
Aggravated Assault	117	77	-34.2
Rape	61	65	+ 6.6
Homicide	6	4	-33.3
TOTAL	6,915	6,603	- 4.5

ACTUAL OFFENSES (UNFOUNDED REMOVED)			%Increase/Decrease
B&E	2,884	2,588	-10.3
Larceny	3,153	3,192	+ 1.2
Motor Vehicle Theft	389	386	- 0.8
Robbery	35	24	-31.4
Aggravated Assault	110	73	-33.6
Rape	53	59	+11.3
Homicide	6	4	-33.3
TOTAL	6,630	6,326	- 4.6

The Division is comprised of three sections, the Bureau of Criminal Investigation, the Special Investigation Unit and the Arson Unit, each having specific duties related to the overall mission of crime control and apprehension of criminals.

BUREAU OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION (BCI):

The Bureau of Criminal Investigation Unit is under the command of a State Police Lieutenant who has direct supervision of five (5) Detective Sergeants. The five (5) Sergeants directly supervise twenty-three (23) Detective Corporals. The BCI detectives and their immediate supervisors are deployed throughout the state with offices located within each State Police Station. These officers are routinely assigned to investigate major crimes, such as murder, rape, robbery and burglary, within their area of geographical responsibility. As time permits, they also relieve the uniformed Field Force Division of the investigation responsibility for some of the less serious offenses.

The 23 BCI detectives opened 1803 new criminal cases during FY 1983, cases for which they carried primary investigative responsibility. In addition to these cases, the detectives continued investigation of a number of cases carried forward from FY 82 and also assisted the Field Force Division personnel in the investigation of 589 cases where the primary investigative responsibility remained with the uniformed officer. They also assisted other law enforcement agencies in the investigation of 339 cases. These agencies included local law enforcement agencies and other state and federal law enforcement agencies.

The detectives made a total of 622 criminal arrests which resulted in 218 convictions. Because many of these cases that resulted in court actions are still pending,.the number of convictions should increase.

The Bureau of Criminal Investigation also contains a Polygraph Unit. This unit, consisting of one (1) Sergeant supervisor and three (3) Corporal examiners, conducts polygraph examinations to determine the apparent truthfulness of suspects and victims in both criminal and motor vehicle offenses. Polygraph examinations are conducted at several locations throughout the state upon the request of VSP Officers and also upon the requests of local police and sheriffs' departments, state's attorneys, public defenders, the Court, Fish and Game, the Motor Vehicle Department, federal departments and Social Welfare. Preemployment examinations are conducted on all State Police applicants and many candidates for employment within local police and sheriffs' departments.

This year the unit operated with only two (2) examiners from November 1982 to June 1983 due to a transfer/promotion. In February 1983 the unit sent another examiner to Keeler Polygraph Institute to bring the unit back up to full strength.

The Polygraph Unit conducted 658 examinations during the past Fiscal Year, with 149 of these being pre-employment examinations and the remaining 509 relating to criminal or motor vehicle cases. In 150 of the 509 examinations relating to criminal or motor vehicle cases the preliminary polygraph examination indicated deception, resulting in further interrogation. Confessions were subsequently obtained by the Polygraph Examiner in 102 of these cases, a 47 percent clearance by confession.

SPECIAL INVESTIGATION UNIT:

The Special Investigation Section is comprised of a Fraud Unit, a Drug Enforcement Unit, the Governor's Security Unit and the Intelligence Unit.

During Fiscal Year 1983, the Drug Enforcement Unit investigated 76 drug-related cases, 67 of which were for the illegal sale of regulated drugs.

FISCAL 1983 - POLYGRAPH STATISTICS

	NUMBER EXAMINATIONS	STATE POLICE	LOCAL POLICE	STATES ATTORNEY	PUBLIC DEFENDER	OTHER	A - TROOP	D - TROOP	HQ - MIDDLESEX	RUTLAND	OTHER		CLEARED OF CRIME	NOT TRUTHFUL	CONFESSIONS	INCONCLUSIVE	DISCONTINUED	
ARSON	47	40	5	0	2			9	11	13	9	5		19	13	13	1	1
ASSAULT	40	10	8	10	10	2		14	7	11	8			12	11	15	1	1
B&E	56	24	17	9	6	0		14	5	20	13	4		18	17	18	1	2
DRUGS	9	1	0	6	0	2		4	3	0	0	2		5	3	1	0	0
FRAUD	15	5	1	3	2	4		3	0	9	3	0		8	5	0	1	1
HOMICIDE	32	23	5	4	0	0		5	4	18	5	0		19	8	3	1	1
LARCENY	124	32	77	8	6	1		43	31	21	21	8		64	33	18	3	6
L&L	19	4	5	6	4	0		5	2	6	6	0		5	6	5	1	2
MISCELLANEOUS	74	24	14	6	13	17		24	11	22	14	3		34	22	10	4	4
PREEMPLOYMENT	149	111	23			15		25	18	5	101	0						
MOTOR VEHICLE	29	5	2	13	7	2		8	2	9	9	1		5	13	9	2	0
SEXUAL ASSAULT	51	25	13	6	7	0		13	10	14	11	3		24	13	9	0	5
ROBBERY	13	1	8	3	1	0		3	2	5	1	2		6	6	1	0	0
TOTAL	658	305	178	74	58	43		170	106	153	201	28		285	232	102	15	24

With assistance from member states of the New England State Police Administrators Compact, the Drug Unit initiated one major Cocaine distribution investigation involving New England State connections. The expenses that were incurred during this investigation were defrayed by a federal grant that was obtained by the New England State Police Administrators. This investigation resulted in numerous arrests and the seizure of a ½ pound of Cocaine.

A NESPAC-funded project in the Burlington area initiated during Fiscal Year 1982 was concluded this year and resulted in the arrest of six (6) defendants for Sale and Distribution of Cocaine.

The following are examples of investigations conducted by the Unit during this Fiscal Year:

The Drug Unit was involved in a joint investigation with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) which resulted in the seizure of 2 tons of Hashish, 3 vehicles, and the arrest of 8 defendants at a stash house in Northern Vermont.

An international investigation conducted jointly with DEA and local police departments in the Toronto, Ontario area resulted in the arrests of major narcotic distributors in Canada. Most of the subjects had travelled to this state during their smuggling operations.

Undercover officers from the Unit were successful in assisting Long Island, New York authorities in a case which resulted in the seizure of 200 pounds of Hashish and the seizure of $5,000,000 in assets of indicted individuals.

The Fraud Unit is engaged in the investigation of "White Collar Crime" and is responsible for the investigation of major embezzlements and other crimes of fraud throughout the state. The Unit also assists other divisions within the State Police in investigations where financial accounting work must be performed. The Unit works closely with the Drug Enforcement Unit and the Intelligence Unit to combat organized crime's efforts to infiltrate the state.

The Fraud Unit investigated 22 fraud cases during the past Fiscal Year and these officers also participated extensively in a multi-state homicide investigation attempting to locate and apprehend the fugitives wanted in connection with the murder of a New Jersey State Trooper. This investigation continued throughout the year and is ongoing.

During this Fiscal Year the Fraud Unit initiated a program to detect Prescription Fraud within the state. State Police investigators were provided with in-service training which outlined procedures for conducting Compliance Investigations of Pharmacies and how to identify "doctor shoppers" and other violators. The program has resulted in the arrests of several persons for using fraudulent prescriptions.

The Governor's Security Detail's primary function is to provide protection to the Governor of the State, both within the state and when he travels elsewhere. The Unit consists of two State Police Officers who are, on certain occasions, supplemented by officers from other divisions of State Police.

The Intelligence Unit provides for the collection, evaluation and dissemination of criminal intelligence information within the Law Enforcement Community throughout the state. It also provides the sharing of criminal intelligence information with law enforcement agencies of other jurisdictions.

FIRE INVESTIGATION UNIT:

The Fire Investigation Unit is commanded by a State Police Lieutenant who also serves as Assistant Deputy Fire Marshall. The Unit is charged with the responsibility of investigating all suspicious fires and those of unknown origin in the State.

The Unit investigated 480 fires for the period July 1, 1982 through June 30, 1983.

COUNTY	
Addison	19
Bennington	23
Caledonia	42
Chittenden	67
Essex	6
Franklin	39
Grand Isle	6
Lamoille	27
Orange	21
Orleans	26
Rutland	82
Washington	68
Windham	22
Windsor	32
TOTAL	480

MONTH	
January	56
February	35
March	49
April	31
May	26
June	46
July	47
August	33
September	23
October	58
November	33
December	43
TOTAL	480

DAY OF FIRE	
Sunday	91
Monday	68
Tuesday	68
Wednesday	71
Thursday	64
Friday	51
Saturday	64
Unknown	3
TOTAL	480

DAMAGE	
Addison	$ 744,000
Bennington	$ 454,575
Caledonia	$ 2,209,080
Chittenden	$ 1,441,130
Essex	$ 277,000
Franklin	$ 1,425,000
Grand Isle	$ 696,000
Lamoille	$ 1,147,000
Orange	$ 695,752
Orleans	$ 708,310
Rutland	$ 1,807,820
Washington	$ 1,408,605
Windham	$ 575,840
Windsor	$ 2,013,735
*TOTAL	$15,603,847

* Estimated by Investigators

There was an increase in fire deaths this year with a total of 26 civilian deaths. This represents an 86% increase since 1980, a three-year period. (See Comparison Chart.)

FIRE INVESTIGATION UNIT

TRENDS OF THE PAST SEVEN FISCAL YEARS

(July 1, 1977 - June 30, 1983)

		1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
A.	Fires Investigated	423	532	576	585	560	474	480
B.	Number of Arsons	120	270	261	281	271	197	229
C.	Juveniles Involved	23	48	*	*	*	*	*
D.	Juveniles Involved (Arson)	---	---	28	42	32	14	4
E.	Juveniles Involved (Other)	---	---	24	16	16	9	1
F.	Adults Arrested (Arson	24	54	42	85	46	29	67
G.	Deaths Resulting from Fire	15	14	18	14	13	20	26

**H. Estimated Amount of Loss As A Result of Arson

1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
---	---	$3,376,602	$4,386,136	$3,516,761	$4,501,874	$3,828,572

* Prior to 1979, the Category (C) "Juveniles Involved" related to all fires concerning juveniles. Beginning with Fiscal 1979, Categories (D) and (E) were created to show the number of juveniles involved in Arson Cases and those involved in Accidental-type Fires.

** Category (H) applies only to incendiary fires investigated by the State Police Fire Investigation Unit.

One of the primary non-investigative tasks of the Unit is to gather fire incident data on a statewide basis. A new reporting system (NFIRS) was initiated on July 1, 1982, with a goal of more complete and accurate reporting from fire departments

throughout the state. The program has been very successful with 202 departments reporting at this time. Quarterly and Annual Reports have been furnished to each fire department.

A total of 10,209 incidents were reported for this Fiscal Year. Of the 10,209 incidents reported, 3,883 were actual fires with the balance being rescue calls, mutual aid, hazardous materials, standby, etc.

SECTION 4

FIELD FORCE DIVISION

The backbone of the Vermont State Police is the uniformed trooper on the road in a "marked" patrol car. He is the one who has the most frequent direct contact with the public through routine patrol, requests for assistance and the investigation of accidents, crimes and miscellaenous complaints. The actions of these troopers go far toward establishing the image of the entire department.

This Division includes about three-fourths of the sworn officer manpower of the Vermont State Police and is assigned throughout the state in four troop areas. The four troops are broken down into eleven stations and twenty-one outpost areas. Each troop is headed by a troop commander with the rank of lieutenant. Each station is headed by a station commander with the rank of sergeant. Each station has three patrol commanders (shift supervisors) with the rank of corporal. Each station has from six to ten troopers at the station with from one to three troopers in various outposts. Each of the four "cluster" outposts has from three to five troopers with a patrol commander supervisor.

With the shortage of manpower, all to frequently we are a reactive force responding after the fact, instead of providing adequate preventive patrols. For a four-month period during this Fiscal Year, we initiated an experimental program to test the effectiveness of a few hours of overtime in each station (16 hours per month) concentrated on DWI enforcement. The results, we believe, documented the effectiveness of additional preventive patrol hours. This program is discussed in more detail later in this report.

TRAFFIC ACTIVITIES:

A large portion of the Field Force Division's time is spent in the area of traffic enforcement. Among the higher priority areas is the apprehension of persons violating the motor vehicle statutes, with particular concern for DWI, excessive speed, truck weight, safety, and hazardous material shipments.

Department statistics indicate that we are experiencing some degree of success in traffic enforcement. Motor vehicle arrests in general increased 15.3%, DWI arrests in particular increased 54.2%, the number of trucks weighed increased 6.5%, and the number of traffic accidents decreased 9.5% (as compared with FY 1982 statistics).

Although it is difficult to draw any solid conclusions from the reduction in traffic accidents in general, it is significant to note that fatal accidents and the resulting number of deaths have continued to decline during the past three calendar years. We believe the improvement in these accident statistics is, at least partially, due to special emphasis we have placed on DWI enforcement and our continued enforcement of speed limits. It has long been established that alcohol and speed are the two major factors in fatal and serious injury accidents.

FATAL ACCIDENT COMPARISON
(By Calendar Year)

	1979	1980	1981	1982
Fatal Accidents	132	125	106	92
Traffic Deaths	161	139	115	107

Based on year-to-date statistics for calendar year 1983, it appears that 1983 will be the fourth consecutive year with a reduction of fatal accidents and the resulting deaths on Vermont highways.

55 MPH ENFORCEMENT:

Since the inception of the national 55 MPH speed limit, the federal government has been monitoring Vermont's level of compliance. The recent finding of non-compliance imposed on the states of Massachusetts and Nevada makes it clear that the federal law requiring that at least 50% of the motorists comply with the 55 MPH speed limit may be more than a hollow threat.

Our final compliance rating for Federal Fiscal Year 1983 was 55.6% compliance, or 44.4% of the motorists not complying. Had it not been for the federally-funded additional overtime hours devoted to 55 MPH enforcement, we probably would have failed to meet the standard.

The additional 55 MPH speed zones which were recently established (i.e., the new Interstate 93, the new section of U.S. Route 7 in Bennington County, and a section of U.S. Route 2 in Colchester and Milton leading into Grand Isle County) will be monitored commencing with Federal Fiscal Year 1984. Many hours of 55 MPH highway patrol will continue to be required to avoid the withholding of a portion of Vermont's share of federal highway funds.

Enforcement Efforts Included:

Total State-Share Paid Hours	37,149:10
Total Federal-Share Overtime Hours	4,653:40
Grand Total 55 MPH Enforcement Hours	41,802:50

Resulting In:

Citations Issued for Speeds 56-60 MPH	253
Citations Issued for Speeds 61-65 MPH	3,258
Citations Issued for Speeds 66 MPH & Up	31,873
Grand Total Citations Issued	35,384

DWI ENFORCEMENT:

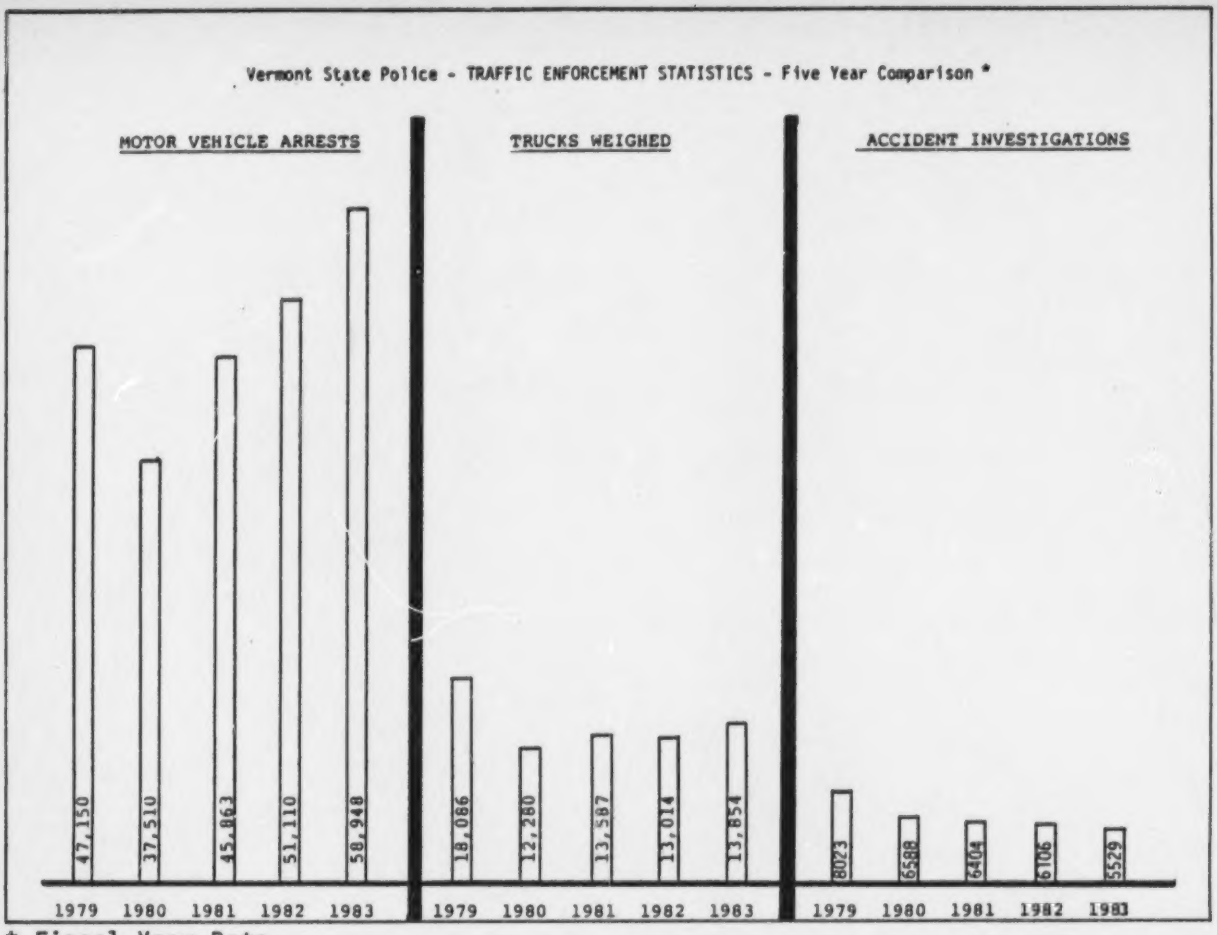
It has long been established that alcohol is a significant causal factor in fatal and serious injury accidents. The legislature showed its concern by passing a statute which authorized the use of a Roadside Testing Device in addition to the Evidentiary Test for Alcohol Impairment. Fiscal Year 1982 was the first full year's experience with this statute, and, in part, as a result of it, DWI arrests were up substantially. The first three months of Fiscal Year 1983 leveled off with no significant increase in DWI arrests. Not being satisfied that we were doing everything possible to combat this "killer", we initiated a special project we called R.A.I.D.

Project R.A.I.D. (Remove Alcohol Impaired Drivers):

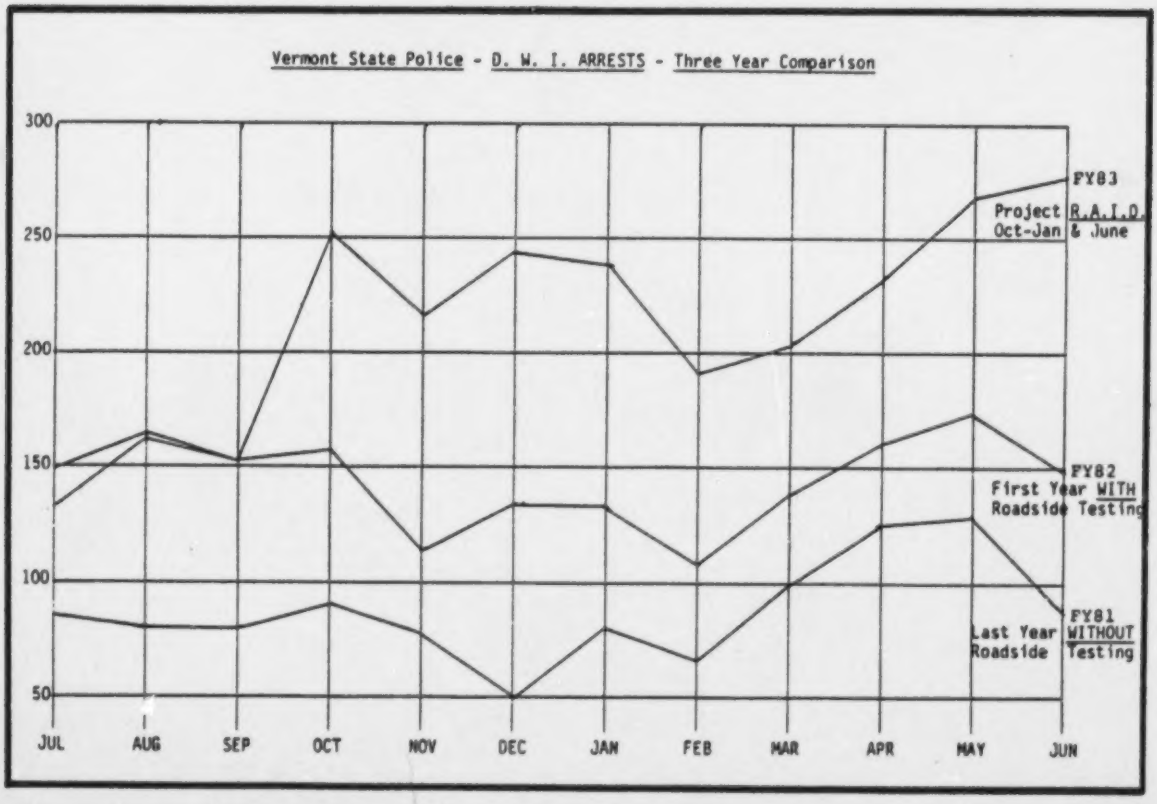
With the growing concern of the public and the legislature in removing the alcohol impaired drivers from Vermont highways, we wanted to determine if additional patrols with a primary goal of apprehending the drunk driver would have significant impact. In short, it did!

During a period when we had State Police vacancies, we used a small amount of those vacancy funds to implement project R.A.I.D. Each station was required to assign sixteen (16) manhours of overtime per month for four months (October 1982 through January 1983) to the project. The results speak for themselves; DWI arrests increased eighty-two percent (82%) over the same four months of Fiscal Year 1982.

We have since received a one-year grant of federal highway safety funds to continue this program through Federal Fiscal Year 1984.



* Fiscal Year Data



TRUCK WEIGHING PROGRAM:

The legislature, following a summer study of the truck weight laws, passed new legislation pertaining to truck weight enforcement which became effective on 1 July 1983 and will enable this department to more effectively meet the truck weighing requirements mandated by the federal government. The results of these changes, shown below, will be reflected in our FY 1984 report.

1. Provides for a 10% tolerance on axle limits.
2. Provides for a 5% tolerance on registered capacity.
3. Removes the $300 maximum fine for weight violations.
4. Provides for subsequent offense fines.
5. Increases the fine for refusal to weigh.
6. Provides for impoundment of the vehicle and load in the case of a refusal to be weighed.
7. Provided funds to purchase thirty (30) new low-profile portable scales to replace some of the old portable scales being used by this department. An additional thirty-six (36) scales are needed to more effectively meet the needs of an adquate truck weighing program.

FY 1983 WEIGHT, SIZE AND SAFETY EFFORTS

Trucks Checked	23,364
Trucks Weighed	13,550
Hours Expended	3,965

VIOLATIONS RESULTING THEREFROM

Overweight (212 trucks in excess of 10,000 pounds overweight)	730
Safety Violations	1,531
No Highway Use Permit or Diesel Tax Permit	788

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL PROGRAM:

A variety of hazardous materials have been transported for many years over Vermont's highways, railways and airways. It has only been in recent years that the public has become aware of the potential hazard posed by these materials to their health and safety. Consequently, Vermont has basically adopted the Federal Regulations (CFR-49) pertaining to the transportation of hazardous materials.

The Vermont State Police has initially trained a selected number of officers in methods related to handling hazardous materials incidents. They are in the process of training the remainder of our officers so that they can more effectively cope with this ongoing problem. During this past year, we conducted eleven classes for all interested police agencies, firemen, and rescue personnel. Seven of these classes were for the first responders and covered areas of responsibility, identification of material, and incident scene management. Four classes were dedicated to the inspection of motor vehicles transporting hazardous materials and the enforcement of the related regulations.

FY 1983 activities included the following:

27 - Accident/Incident Investigations

138 - Hazardous Material Trucks Inspected, Including:

- 76 - Flammable Liquid
- 21 - Combustible Material
- 18 - Corrosive Material
- 14 - Flammable Gas
- 3 - Non-flammable Gas
- 3 - Explosives
- 2 - Oxidizers
- 1 - Insecticide

12 - Inspections Resulted in Court Action

FLEET PROGRAM:

Significant progress has been made this past year in upgrading the fleet program. Our newly-renovated shop has played a large role in savings on maintenance and repair costs. With the added space and new equipment, it not only has made it a desirable place to work, but has increased our productivity. Our garage is equal to, if not better than, most commercial garages in Vermont or police garages throughout the country.

This year we were fortunate to add a much needed parts man to our garage staff (a reallocated position). This helps considerably in servicing our eleven (11) stations with automotive parts and supplies, in procuring parts for our mechanics and sheet metal parts for accident repairs.

We have replaced our old engine analyzer and emission diagnostic center. This gives us the capability of testing all engine-related components of any vehicle. We have done a significant amount of trouble shooting and diagnosing of problem vehicles throughout the state that could not be accomplished by local dealerships. This has reduced operating costs and, equally important, downtime.

In addition, the Special Services garage makes all major repairs on our fleet vehicles, such as valve jobs and rebuilding engines, plus overhauls starters, carburetors, alternators and distributors. We also perform general maintenance for the nearby stations, such as brake jobs, repair of radiators, tune-ups, replacement of camshafts, lube, oil and filter changes, tire mounting and balancing, and vehicle inspections.

In addition to servicing our fleet vehicles, the maintenance personnel service the snowmobiles, motorboats, and trailers, answer department wrecker calls, and maintain the Civil Defense waterpumps and generators, the portable truck scales

and all emergency equipment to insure that it is ready for any emergency that may arise.

Following is a partial list of the most significant services and repairs of vehicle and equipment components and the savings (vendor costs vs. our costs):

	TYPE OF SERVICES	ESTIMATED SAVINGS
66	- brake jobs	$ 5,940
28	- starters	700
27	- carburetors	4,428
34	- alternators	3,230
9	- distributors	162
12	- radiators	2,400
18	- brake calipers	756
1	- rebuilt engines	500
4	- differentials	1,200
3	- marine transmissions	1,650
1,328	- tire changes & balancing	1,195
386	- tune-ups	15,440
491	- lube, oil & filter	6,383
17	- wrecker calls	8,840
11	- camshafts replaced	2,750
16	- engine valve jobs	4,000
51	- maintenance of trailers	3,060
131	- vehicle inspections	262
16	- batteries	640
116	- headlamps	2,320
153	- shock absorbers	950
36	- brake rotors	288
251	- mag lights installed	3,765
	TOTAL	$70,859

We have performed the following projects in order to save additional funds or to enhance the value of vehicles and equipment being auctioned:

1. Pursuit Vehicles (54)

   The installation of fire extinguishers and brackets, radio speakers, and deck lights, plus the application of State Police decals, must be completed before the vehicle is issued.

2. Non-Pursuit Vehicles (10)

   These vehicles are prepared for service by installing radio speakers and other related equipment, and likewise are removed when the vehicle is taken out of service.

3. Auction Vehicles (55)

   Fifty-five (55) vehicles were prepared for the September auction, which included steam cleaning the engines, cleaning the upholstery and floor mats, and polishing and repainting in some cases. This extra effort has brought top dollars for our vehicles.

4. Damaged Vehicles

   Sheet metal from the damaged vehicles is salvaged and kept for replacement parts on future damaged vehicles to minimize repair costs.

5. Portable Scales (36)

   The truck scales and trailers were repaired and maintained as needed.

MARINE ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM:

The 1983 Marine Enforcement Program was limited to Lakes Champlain and Memphremagog for the second year. This has all but eliminated marine enforcement on all other bodies of water in Vermont. Individual complaints of violations on these waters are investigated by full-time troopers. Each station has a motorboat to respond to emergencies and complaints, but provides no routine enforcement patrols.

A full-time trooper from the Colchester Station was placed on temporary duty status to work as the Marine Auxiliary Supervisor for the 1983 boating season. The program began in early May with the supervisor contacting and obtaining the cooperation of fifty-three (53) marinas and boating businesses, servicing the Lake Champlain Region, to distribute our publications which explain the Vermont marine toilet and holding tank laws.

The Boating Safety Program was set up to provide forty hours of marine patrol in the Colchester and St. Albans Station areas of Lake Champlain, and forty hours per week on Lake Memphremagog.

Marine Auxiliary troopers received about thirty hours of in-service training prior to the commencement of the boating season.

A new defective equipment warning ticket was developed and used during this season. The "Vessel Inspection Ticket", which was used by the marine officers, is a check-list type ticket allowing the officer to inspect the equipment required for that particular vessel. The ticket is also used to give the boater one week in which to remedy a minor defect and return the ticket without a penalty.

Greater emphasis was placed on holding tank and marine toilet violations this season. The new schedule of fines provides for a fine of $250.00 for a first offense conviction.

One new boat, a sixteen-foot Thundercraft inboard, was purchased this year and was used on Lake Champlain primarily for checking vessels in the harbor and bay areas.

The trend in marine-related activities continues to increase each year. More and more people are taking advantage of the many lakes, rivers and ponds in Vermont to spend their leisure time. Sailboating continues to become more popular, with sailboarding leading the way as the lastest style of sailing on Vermont waterways. Because of this trend, we increased contact with these sailboard enthusiasts to be sure they were aware of their responsibilities and the dangers involved in the sport.

Following is a breakdown of marine-related activities for the 1983 boating season:

4 - Boating Accidents Investigated

7 - Search and Rescue Missions

12 - Boating Regattas and Exhibitions

1252 - Vessel Inspection Tickets Issued

233 - Defective Equipment Warnings

421 - Marine Toilets Inspected

145 - Marine Violation Citations Issued as Follows:

- 35 - No Personal Flotation Device
- 33 - No Boat Registration
- 24 - Marine Toilet Violations
- 13 - No Fire Extinguisher
- 4 - Careless and Negligent Operation

SNOWMOBILE ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM:

Registration receipts previously designated to finance snowmobile enforcement patrols are no longer available to us. Consequently, there were no regular patrols by auxiliary troopers this year. Each station was provided with two snowmobiles so that full-time officers could respond to emergencies and handle routine snowmobile-related complaints. Full-time troopers were also used to conduct the Snowmobile Safety Certificate Program at various locations throughout the state. The lack of funding also prevented the replacement of, or any major repairs to, our old snowmobiles.

The lack of significant snowfall for most of the 1982 - 83 snow season dramatically reduced the amount of snowmobiling in Vermont. The early part of the season, through mid-January, had virtually no snow and consequently no snowmobiling.

The registration of snowmobiles has declined nearly 43% over the last eight years. Snowmobiling is becoming less popular because of (1) the dramatic increase in gasoline prices through the late seventies, (2) the several bare winters, (3) the dramatic increase in snowmobile purchase prices (machines that once cost $1,000 are now selling for $4,000 and up), and (4) the escalation in popularity during the past two years of the all-terrain vehicle (ATV), an all-season vehicle not dependent on snowfall.

Problems with ATV operation are developing much like those of the snowmobiles in the late sixties. Legislation is pending on the regulation of all-terrain vehicles.

The following chart shows a five-year comparison of reported snowmobile accidents.

VERMONT SNOWMOBILE ACCIDENTS - FIVE YEAR COMPARISON

ACCIDENTS:	'78-79	'79-80	'80-81	'81-82	'82-83
Fatal	2	0	1	2	0
Injury	27	8	11	15	8
Property Damage	9	5	1	2	1
Number Killed	2	0	1	2	0
Number Injured	32	11	18	19	7
TYPE OF COLLISION:					
W/Motor Vehicle	12	7	1	8	1
W/Snowmobile	9	2	2	4	0
W/Fixed Object	11	0	3	1	3
W/Pedestrian	1	0	2	1	0
Non-Collision	5	4	6	5	5
CAUSE:					
Crossing Highway	5	2	0	2	1
Open Highway Violation	0	1	0	3	0
Inattention	6	2	1	1	1
Inexperience	3	0	0	1	2
Speed	14	3	6	5	3
Mechanical Failure	2	1	1	0	0
Following too Close	0	0	2	1	0
Drinking	0	0	0	1	0
C&N Operation	4	0	1	1	0
Obstacle on Trail	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous/Unknown	4	4	3	4	2 *
TOTAL ACCIDENTS:	38	13	14	19	9

* 1 child caught foot in track
  1 accident caused by lack of snow

TACTICAL SUPPORT UNIT:

The Tactical Support Unit (commonly called SWAT team) fortunately had a very uneventful year. The unit was called upon only once during the year for a tactical operation involving the assault on, and security of, buildings, during a major drug raid in Bakersfield. The presence of this team probably played a role in the lack of resistance from the occupants of the buildings. No shots were fired and no one was injured during the search.

Training sessions were held in accordance with established policy and dealt with familiarizing the team members with the capabilities and limitations of the new equipment purchased early in the year. In addition to the continuous routine range work, the team also tested new checmical agents recently purchased. This new equipment will greatly enhance the capabilities of the team.

During Fiscal Year 1984, the team will have personnel changes involving two long-time members who were promoted and/or transferred. It is necessary to periodically replace older members on any specialized team so that there will always be a continuity of expertise. New members are very carefully screened for firearms skill, emotional stability and team spirit.

This team will be working with the Explosives Ordnance Disposal Team to develop and maintain some expertise in the use of explosives for possible joint team efforts.

DIVE, RESCUE AND RECOVERY TEAM:

This team consists of six full-time, volunteer, State Police officers who are assigned to all three divisions across the state. These officers are required to attend extensive training sessions throughout the year to keep their diving skills, rescue techniques and recovery methods up to date and proficient. The

monthly training dives are held at different bodies of water in which they might be called to perform a recovery or rescue to increase familiarity with those waters and the conditions under which they might be working. They practice one or more types of dive each session, including fast water dives and ice dives.

Two of the team members attended a Dive, Rescue and Recovery Seminar in Cincinatti, Ohio in May and passed on the information gained to the other divers at a training session after their return.

In addition to training dives, the team members were given their annual physicals, including, for the first time, a maximum stress test which was conducted by the Sports Science Center in Burlington. This test screens out members no longer physically fit to perform this hazardous and stressful assignment to the benefit of the individual, the team, and the department.

There has been more emphasis on dive-rescue techniques this past year. With more medical service personnel being made aware of the dive teams' capabilities, they are seeking our assistance more.

The dive team assisted the Vermont Firefighters Association by providing a man and the air compressor to refill their air tanks at eight of their training sessions throughout the state. Other activities include:

7 - Calls for body recovery (1 homicide victim and 6 drownings)

5 - Calls for recovery of evidence

2 - Calls to assist other state agencies (non-criminal matters)

14 - Total calls for service

CANINE PROGRAM:

Patrol Dog Teams (Shepards):

During FY 1983 we conducted one sixteen-week patrol dog team training course, bringing the number of department trained teams to thirteen and the local police departments to five.

ACTIVITIES OF OUR TEAMS

52	-	Trailings (wanted or missing persons)
44	-	Building Searches (wanted persons or alarm responses)
36	-	Officer Back-ups
35	-	Public Relations Demonstrations
3	-	Guarding Prisoners
170	-	TOTAL REQUESTS FOR SERVICE
RESULTING IN 28	-	Criminal Arrests

Bloodhounds:

The bloodhounds were used for nineteen missing person searches.

Drug Detection Dogs:

Two of our patrol dogs have been cross-trained in the detection of drugs (marijuana, hashish and cocaine). These dogs were used in eight drug searches, which resulted in seven criminal arrests.

Explosives Detection Dog:

We received a black labrador retreiver from the Connecticut State Police which was already fully trained in explosives detection (black powder, C4, dynamite, flex-x and TNT). The dog was received in May and has not been used as yet.

In General:

Our canine program is at its highest point ever. The patrol dogs prove their worth almost on a daily basis -- recently one was shot (not fatally) and probably

saved the trooper's life. With the new capabilities of drug and explosives detection, we are now better able to serve the many needs of law enforcement and the citizens of Vermont.

SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM:

During FY 1983, the Team participated in three missions.

1. In October 1982, the Team spent one day searching Butler Island in Lake Champlain. The search was conducted for a missing person whose boat was located aground on the shore of the island. The search proved negative and the person was not located until August 1983, when her body was recovered in a remote swampy section of the Wildlife Refuge in West Swanton.

2. The second mission proved to be a false alarm. Colchester BCI received information about a body in the river east of Vermont Route 100C in Johnson. As the reported body was located at the base of a steep cliff and in the water, the Team was requested to repel into the area to investigate. Investigation revealed that the "body" was a pine log about sixteen inches in diameter and three feet long that had lost all of its bark and was bleached white by spending an extended length of time in the river.

3. The final mission occured in a remote section of Montgomery Center on Sunday, 12 June. A six-year old boy went fishing with his twelve-year old brother in midday. The boys became separated and the older boy returned to the family camp in early afternoon without his younger brother. The family instituted a search with negative results. The St. Albans State Police Office was notified of the missing child about 1700 hours. A search by the department's bloodhound was unsuccessful so

the northern half of the Team was activated. Supplemented by volunteers, Border Patrol agents and Fish and Game wardens, the search continued throughout the night.

At daylight on 13 June the boy had not been located. Searchers who had been searching for twelve hours in darkness and difficult terrain were relieved by team members from the two southern troops. Supplemented by additional volunteers, the search continued until the boy was located about noon. He was frightened and hungry, but otherwise unharmed.

The Team trained in search procedures, technical rope work and repelling at Norwich University in November 1982.

EXPLOSIVES ORDNANCE DISPOSAL (E.O.D.) TEAM:

The unit consists of five volunteer officers. The two replacement officers have received their required basic training at Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Alabama.

The E.O.D. Team hosted the F.B.I. Northeast Regional Bomb Technicians Seminar at the Vermont National Guard Armory and Range in Westminster, Vermont. This seminar was well attended and the F.B.I. was pleased with the assistance from the Vermont team.

The unit commander attended the Bomb Squad Commanders Seminar at the F.B.I. National Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

During this Fiscal Year, the unit responded to twenty-two requests for service and handled both military and commerical explosives. All were disposed of without further incident.

The unit acquired a new portable x-ray unit and film processor for use on suspected devices.

SECTION 5

SUPPORT SERVICES

The Support Services Division is, as its designation implies, the technical support arm of the State Police. Services rendered by this Division are available and utilized by criminal justice agencies throughout the state. Additionally, some of our services are used by non-criminal justice state agencies. The Division's personnel strength consists of fifteen sworn State Police Officers and thirty civilian employees. The Division is commanded by a State Police Captain.

The Division encompasses four distinct program areas: Communications, Crime Laboratory, Training and Community Relations, and the Vermont Criminal Information Center. Division personnel are generally centered at our Headquarters; however, two Community Relations Officers are assigned to the field, one in Colchester and the other in Rockingham. Additionally, Communications Technicians are assigned to repair facilities at Colchester, St. Johnsbury, Rutland and Rockingham areas.

The Division operates on an annual fiscal year budget of approximately 1.7 million dollars.

Of major significance to the Division during the year was the appropriate allocation of the space for the Division's programs at the Department's new Headquarters facility in Waterbury. Occupancy of this building occurred just after FY 1983 ended. This new facility will, for the first time in many years, allow for the Division's entities to be housed within one building, as opposed to the five scattered throughout the Montpelier area. The Communications Repair Shop, however, will remain at its present Montpelier location.

The second area of significant interest during the Fiscal Year related to the final design and implementation of a statewide law enforcement information system,

commonly referred to as VLEIS. This computer-based system has been under construction for a number of years and was implemented near the end of FY 1983 after funding was approved by the 1982 Legislative Session. In order to accomplish this task, a new position of Agency Automated Systems Specialist was created by reallocating a planning position located within the Administrative Division. This computer specialist, working closely with a State Police Lieutenant temporarily assigned from the Field Force Division, performed most of the Departmental tasks associated with the final design and implementation of the VLEIS system. The Support Services Commander was Project Manager for this task. Additionally, an Ad Hoc Committee consisting of representatives of Vermont's law enforcement community was created to review and comment upon the project as we moved step-by-step through its design. Representatives of Touche-Ross and Company continued to advise us throughout this period of time, as they had conducted a federally-funded study of the need for such a system in the previous Fiscal Year. Programming was provided by the State Information System, which will also be providing ongoing computer services to support this program.

Testing of the system occurred in early April and, following appropriate training, agencies were phased into the new system during the latter months of FY 1983 and the first month or so of FY 1984.

The system, which is batch fed on a biweekly basis, results in monthly reports generated in two distinct areas: (1) management information reports, and (2) crime statistics as to workloads within their respective agencies, when and what occurred, together with comprehensive officer activity reports. The reports show time of day, day of week activities, activities by location and by type, and include information relating to the response time required to arrive on the scene of a

given incident, and how long the officer was involved in the on-scene investigation.

The crime statistics reports, for the first time in the history of the State of Vermont, will result in statewide crime statistics totals, again by location, time of occurrence, and type of occurrence. This information should clearly provide us with a more acceptable statistical analyses of crime patterns within our state boundaries, and these automated statistics will be furnished to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for inclusion in the Uniform Crime Report, a nationwide crime-reporting system.

The VLEIS program has been implemented in its entirety, with the exception of the Uniform Crime Report, which will be finally developed and implemented prior to 1 January 1984. Hence, the first statewide "Uniform Crime Reports" will be available at the conclusion of calendar year 1984.

The VLEIS input documents are batch fed to SIS through the Director of VCIC and the resulting reports are returned to the law enforcement community through the VCIC Director.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION:

The Communications Section is primarily responsible for the design and engineering, installation, maintenance, and repair of existing departmental communications and other electronics equipment. This service is also provided to other state agencies on a need basis.

A major task confronting the Communications Section during this Fiscal Year related to the design, engineering, and installation of the communications systems required

for our new Waterbury Headquarters. This project included equipment required for day-to-day operations, together with those required for specific emergency situations such as those relating to the Radiological Emergency Response Plan or other hazardous materials in general.

One of the major tasks associated with our new Headquarters revolved around the need for a new and up-to-date telephone system. After considering many alternatives, we entered into a lease/purchase arrangement for a computer-based telephone system to be totally contained within our new facility. WATS and truck line features were obtained by tieing our new telephone system to the Agency of Human Services Dimension System. Members of our Communications Section spent many hours planning and overseeing the installation of the telephone system. To accomplish this they worked closely with the telephone vendor, the Division of Purchasing, State Buildings Division and its employed general contractor and architects. Certain back-ups on dedicated telephone circuits were also installed by the New England Telephone Company.

A new microwave link was established between our Headquarters in Waterbury and the existing microwave system in Middlesex to allow us to communicate over the statewide police radio system and the Civil Defense radio system. A Headquarters Dispatch Center was re-created, which required a new radio console and a multi-track continuous tape recording capability. This recorder will monitor the majority of police radio traffic statewide, together with Hazardous Materials and nuclear power plant emergency reporting circuitry. The installation of all communications equipment was provided by this Section.

Replacement of the statewide microwave system, funded in Fiscal Year 1982, is 95% complete. One station remains to be replaced pending a "change of location" station modification from the Federal Communications Commission. The system has larger

use capabilities in order to meet future user demands. Agencies such as Human Services have been informed of the system's availability and capability and are encouraged to avail themselves of reduced communication costs via microwave.

The Civil Defense radio system was updated with the addition of five solid state mountaintop base stations. One station remains to be installed on Burke Mountain. An additional station remains uncommitted. It can be readily installed at any location to provide emergency Civil Defense communications. In all, these upgrades will provide a greater reliability of communications for units within the Civil Defense System. The area of radio coverage will be greatly expanded around the Northeast Kingdom. A back-up radio/telephone system was installed at various municipal locations in and around the Vermont Yankee and Rowe generating plants. This system provides these towns with the ability to communicate with each other, with Civil Defense Headquarters, and with the Governor's Office via a radio and microwave link. This system complements existing radio and especially telephone circuits in the event of an emergency situation.

Improvements were made to the State Police radio system at the Colchester Station, which serves the greater Burlington area, with the installation of a voting system. This system electronically allows the dispatcher to hear the best quality signal from calling mobile units, as received at three remotely-located receivers. The potential for missing incoming transmissions is significantly reduced. A complete primary channel frequency change was made at the St. Johnsbury and Derby State Police Stations. This change will provide a better, interference-free radio communications network.

Fish and Game:

The new Fish and Game Department enforcement radio system installation was continued during the year. The five original system mountaintop stations

were replaced with new equipment and two new mountaintop stations were established at Mt. Equinox and Jay Peak, providing greater area coverage than previously available. The Jay Peak Station is not yet operational due to a lack of Canadian clearance for the frequency used by the system. Two new communications consoles, one at Shaftsbury (providing dispatch service with the new station on Equinox) and one at Fish and Game Headquarters in Montpelier, were installed, as were the microwave channels which provide the interconnections from dispatch points to the mountaintop stations. These channels work in conjunction with the statewide microwave system.

Department of Transportation:

The past year brought additional changes to the Highway Maintenance radio system. These changes are in conjunction with a complete system upgrading plan initiated about three years ago. Fifty new mobile units were installed in vehicles working out of the Montpelier area, providing supervisory personnel with new units capable of operating in the new system. A complete frequency change was made at the District Four (White River Junction) area allowing this District to coincide with the system plan. Specifications were written for new mobile and base station units to be used for the continuation of the system remodeling.

Emergency Medical System:

Two new base stations were installed for use by E.M.S., one station at the Jay Peak facilities and a second station at the Mt. Snow facilities. In both cases, connections between dispatch points and base stations were made via the statewide microwave system.

Assistance was rendered to the Bennington Police Department in their efforts to obtain the necessary equipment and interface for the Vermont Law Enforcement

Telecommunications System.

Projections for Fiscal Year 1984, in addition to normal maintenance, include the moving of the Mt. Ascutney radio and microwave installation into a new building on the mountain in compliance with site consolidation plans set forth by the Agency of Environmental Conservation. The Mt. Mansfield consolidation project will receive attention. Issues such as frequency interface, system changes, space provisions, and cost will be examined. The microwave passive reflector at the Rutland Station will be relocated. This is being done at the request of the reflector site lessor.

A recreated position of Communications Technician, which was approved during the 1983 Legislative Session, will be filled early in Fiscal Year 1984.

CRIME LABORATORY SECTION:

Criminalistic analysis of evidence relating to such types of examinations as fingerprints, firearms, fire debris, drugs, and serology have been consistently conducted during the reporting year by the Laboratory. Personnel and instrument restraints have prevented expansion of in-house examination of trace evidence materials such as: paints, hairs, glass, fibers, etc. These examinations are conducted for the state by the F.B.I. Laboratory. Our Laboratory has, by not expanding its criminalistic expertise, been able to eliminate a long-standing examination backlog and has been reporting analytical results in a very timely manner, generally within two weeks.

During the year evidence was received for analysis in 952 criminal cases. The Laborabory cleared 965 cases, clearing 13 which were unreported at the end of Fiscal Year 1982. Annual clearance rate for Fiscal Year 1983 is 100.013%, an improvement of 4.513% above the 1982 clearance rate.

Of the 952 cases received by the Laboratory, 115 cases required the analytical involvement of two or more Laboratory units; i.e., Chemistry and Fingerprints.

The major non-analytical project during the year was the coordination of the remodeling of the Medical/Surgical Building at the Waterbury Complex to a criminalistic laboratory. The remodeled facility, located on the third floor of the department's new Headquarters, will consist of approximately 6,000 square feet of working area and 1,000 square feet of evidence storage area vs. the overall 3,000 square foot area in Montpelier.

Considerable detail was planned into the new facility, with particular attention to ventilating, electrical concerns, and safety.

The Laboratory participated in the Forensic Science Foundation's Crime Laboratory Proficiency Testing Program. Collaborative Testing Services of McLean, Virginia prepares blind evidence samples for examination by subscribing criminalistic laboratories. Vermont conducted examinations of drug, serological, firearms, and toolmark evidence. Analytical results are reviewed by representatives of the Foundation and a final report is published by the Foundation. Persons reviewing analytical results do not know which Crime Laboratory conducted the examinations. The Vermont State Police Crime Laboratory made no errors in the examination of these proficiency samples.

The Chemistry Unit of the Laboratory routinely conducts examinations of controlled substances (drugs), evidence relating to the crime of arson, and evidence of a serological nature. This unit, consisting of a supervising Chemist-Criminalist and two subordinate Chemist-Criminalists, examined evidence in 672 criminal cases. These 672 cases contained 2,353 pieces of evidence; 6,938 chemical tests were performed and 706 examinations were conducted on these pieces of evidence.

This unit is now functioning without the case backlog experienced in previous years; however, with the present staff, moving into new forensic analytical areas is difficult, as time is not available.

In order to expand forensic service into areas of glass, paint, and fiber analysis, additional staff is required. The recommendation of the American Institute of Forensic Science, contained in the 1980 "Forensic Science Management Study - Vermont State Police Crime Laboratory", to employ a Laboratory Aide is considered to be quite valid. Such an aide, with a chemistry background, would be employed to prepare chemical reagents and buffers, maintain chemical inventories, receive and return Chemistry Unit evidence, plus other non-analytical duties currently performed by trained criminalists. Collectively, the time spent on these activities by the existing criminalist staff approximates one man year.

Scientific instrumentation is also required in order to move into new criminalistic areas. A phase contrast microscope, adaptable to a Mettler hot stage, is necessary for glass analysis. A Gas Chromatograph attachment to conduct "state of the art" analysis of paints will be required.

Replacement of an existing instrument is of paramount concern. The Laboratory is currently employing a 13+ year-old UltraViolet Spectrophotometer. This instrument is used extensively in drug indentification and can be applied to drug quantitation and serological analysis. Substance scan time with the present instrument is 20 to 30 minutes per sample. A new instrument, coupled with suitable data station and software, will reduce individual sample scan time to mere seconds, achieving reliable results similar to results experienced with the Infrared Spectrophotometer purchased in Fiscal Year 1982.

The Laboratory Firearms Unit received evidence in 106 cases. We conducted 353 firearms exams which resulted in 129 firearms comparisons. Fifty-seven toolmark/ serial number restoration examinations were conducted. One hundred and sixty-four department firearms were functionally evaluated and/or repaired.

This unit lost one trained Firearms Examiner to a lateral transfer. He has been replaced; however, a minimum of one year will be required to train the replacement.

An optical comparitor was purchased for use within this unit. This instrument will allow for accurate minute measurement of firearms ammunition components. These measurements are necessary to access the information on firearms and components available through the Crime Laboratory Information System of the F.B.I.

With the addition of a bullet water recovery system, which will be in place at the Waterbury facility, the equipment needs of the Firearms Unit will be reasonably stable for several years.

The Fingerprint Unit examined related evidence in 289 criminal cases. One thousand five hundred and sixty-eight fingerprint examinations were conducted.

This unit also suffered the loss of a qualified examiner to department promotion. A replacement has been assigned and a comprehensive training program is being conducted.

The equipment needs of this unit are minor in terms of expenditure and presently are satisfied.

The Photograph Processing Unit developed 28,948 photographic negatives, a .02% increase over Fiscal Year 1982. A reduction of 18% occurred in production of B/W photographic prints. During Fiscal Year 1982, 34,499 prints were made vs. 28,213

during 1983. The decline in photo print production is attributed to a backlog of mug shots which was eliminated in Fiscal Year 1982.

Quality of photographic work done by field officers has improved considerably with the use of the twin lens reflex cameras. Improvement of mugshot quality has been particularly noted.

Staff for the Photo Processing Unit is drawn from the Firearms and Fingerprint Units. The examiners are assigned photographic duties on a rotating basis. This system of staffing presently fulfills the demand for photographic service.

TRAINING AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS SECTION:

This section of the Division is involved in all aspects of State Police Officer Training, from the recruitment of prospective officers to ongoing training for the experienced. Assistance is rendered by Training personnel to other law enforcement agencies in their efforts to continually educate their respective people. Community Relations, a long-standing State Police function that was fomerly referred to as "Safety Education", is the image seller of the Vermont State Police. This unit has broadened its service beyond the areas of vehicular and pedestrian safety in order to meet the information needs of the general public relating to law enforcement and public safety.

Training Unit:

Staff members of this unit are normally the first Vermont State Police Officers encountered by prospective State Police Officers. The Training Staff is charged with continuing recruitment responsibilities. Media advertising, college and high school career day participation, as well as recruitment package mailings, are among the methods employed to interest

people in a Vermont State Police career. Recruitment is also conducted at the Champlain and Rutland Fairs in conjunction with the Department Community Relations booths. The recruit hiring roster in effect at the close of Fiscal Year 1983 resulted from 309 people starting the testing process. After the completion of the multi-phase testing process, 27 people were placed on the hiring roster, with 14 gaining employment prior to year's end.

New officers receive basic training at the Vermont Police Academy following the curriculum established by the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council. Upon successful completion of VCJTC basic programs, recruits are assigned to State Police Stations and enter a Trooper/Coach Training Program. Recruits are assigned to work with specially selected and trained Senior Troopers. The recruit is allowed to handle incidents inherent to police patrol activities with the Senior Trooper exercising on-site guidance and supervision. The Trooper/Coach process spans a period of sixty to ninety days, at which time the new trooper is allowed to work alone on routine matters. The recruit's first year in the basic training cycle culminates with a four-week advanced troopers' school. Feedback from recruits and coaches has been positive. It is apparent that the desired goal of a more competent State Police Officer will result from this program.

Twenty-four in-state training programs were attended by experienced Vermont State Police Officers. These programs cumulatively totaled 2,967 hours of instruction. Additionally, 32 State Police Officers received 216 hours of instruction at in-service training programs sponsored at the Vermont Police Academy.

Forty-six courses of instruction were attended by one or more officers at locations outside the state. Three thousand two hundred and ninety-six

(3,296) hours of instruction were delivered at out-of-state training sessions.

Considerable training is being conducted at State Police Stations. By bringing the instructor to the students, we have minimized expensive travel time. Training such as First Aid and Firearms Qualification are examples of the kinds of subject which can easily be taught at the Station level.

Five innovative training programs have been developed during FY 1983, which include:

A Self-Defense Arrest Firearms Experience Course (SAFE) has been developed to realistically demonstrate officer survival techniques when involved in motor vehicle stops and confrontations with armed violators. Six State Police Officers have been trained as instructors at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy and, in turn, they are instructing fellow State Police Officers.

An Emergency Vehicle Operations Course has been undertaken in order to improve our Troopers' vehicle operation and crash avoidance skills. Two State Police Officers were trained as course instructors by the New York State Police.

A traffic stop becomes routine for officers, but can be a traumatic experience for the person stopped. An Officer-Violator Relationships Course has been designed to minimize potential conflicts between the Trooper and the motorist.

Revolver reloading drills, using specially-designed inert ammunition, have become a part of our officers' monthly routine. The drills are conducted at each station under the supervision of the station fire-

arms instructor. Reloading times have been substantially reduced to speeds only thought possible through the use of a commercial speed-loader. Troopers also drill on the loading of shotguns.

A Video Tape Instructional System (V.T.I.S.) has reached the final planning stage. Video training tapes would be prepared and sent from station to station, delivering the particular instructional message to the Trooper. Part of the instructional program is a pre and post video viewing test. Implementation of this program is awaiting the funding to purchase the necessary hardware.

The Coordinator of the department-wide Physical Assessment Program is currently assigned to the program on a temporary basis. This program has proven itself and the position should be made a permanent one within the Training Unit.

Community Relations Unit:

The Community Relations Program continues to be a department-wide effort, with all three State Police Divisions involved. During the year, 855 formal programs were presented, with 25,340 people in attendance.

Additionally, a booth was maintained at the Champlain Valley and Rutland Fairs. These two events continued to draw large numbers of residents and tourists. The State Police presence in a community setting at the fairs continues to be popular with the fairgoers.

Emphasis this year was placed on seat/safety belt use benefits, with a display of child restraint units. The Alco-Sensor and CRIMPER were also explained in an effort to permit people who drink and drive to know their

limits and keep their blood-alcohol concentration within a safe and legal level.

A few days prior to the Rutland Fair, the department acquired a bloodhound puppy. A "Name the Puppy" Contest was conceived. The new puppy spent Saturday at the fair. Name suggestions were solicited from children under 12 years of age. A $50.00 U.S. Savings Bond, which was donated by the Vermont Troopers Association, was awarded to a youngster from Castleton for suggesting the name "WATSON".

Other Community Relations highlights included assisting in the production of six television public service announcements featuring Indy car driver Bill Alsup of Woodstock, Vermont. These PSA's emphasize highway safety, alcohol and safety belt usage and are shown regularly on Maine, New York and Vermont television stations.

Eight thousand "Survivors Wear Seat Belts" bumper stickers were purchased and distributed, as were ten thousand dash stickers delivering the message, "Seat Belt Use Required In This Vehicle". The latter sticker has been placed in all state-owned vehicles. Bicycle safety flags, orange safety vests and reflectorized bracelets are regularly distributed to cyclists, joggers, and particularly small children.

The most gratifying activity for the Unit each year continues to be the School Patrol Picnics. The week of May 16 saw picnics held in Lyndonville, Bellows Falls, Rutland, Montpelier and Essex Junction. These five picnics were attended by 1,263 students who consumed 528 pounds of hot dogs, 2,200 half-pints of milk, 3,024 ice cream bars and uncountable cups of soft drink.

Games are another big part of the day, with awards being presented to the winning softball and tug-of-war teams.

This year, departmental K-9 teams gave a demonstration at each picnic. This was extremely well received by the children in attendance. Many letters of "Thanks" are received from those who attended.

A Press Release outlining departmental activities is issued on a monthly basis. Also, promotions, hiring of new troopers and other departmental activities are related to statewide media to keep Vermonters informed about their State Police.

VERMONT CRIMINAL INFORMATION CENTER:

The Vermont Criminal Information Center was created by statute effective 1 July 1970, with its predecessor, the Department of Public Safety Identification and Records Division, becoming the nucleus for a statewide repository for all criminal activity records. The records created are intended to include data concerning "the commission of crimes, arrests, convictions, photographs, physical descriptions, fingerprints and such other information as the Commissioner of Public Safety deems pertinent to criminal activity.".

The Vermont Criminal Information Center functions as a support service for all Vermont Criminal Justice Agencies. We maintain records of criminal activity, along with records tracking the criminal's contact with the Judicial System.

VCIC is a small but extremely active section of Support Services. The capturing of information, developing of statistics, and identification of crime trends is hampered only by a lack of staff and/or modern equipment to accomplish these tasks. Almost all of the information provided by VCIC is accumulated manually.

Fingerprint Classification Unit:

The sole Fingerprint Technician continues to be nearly totally occupied processing fingerprint cards received daily at VCIC. Three thousand six hundred and thirty-nine new fingerprint cards were received during the year. Additionally, some 13,000 F.B.I. Final Disposition Forms were processed and forwarded to the F.B.I. to update the records they keep relating to offenses occurring within Vermont. Additionally, 4,279 fingerprint cards which have been filed alphabetically within our files were classified in an attempt to convert our files from an alphabet based file to a Henry Classification based file. This conversion is proceeding very slowly due to a lack of properly trained and available manpower to undertake this task.

Criminal History Unit:

New microfilm equipment consisting of a camera and reader printer was purchased during this Fiscal Year. This updated equipment contributed significantly toward the 66% increase reflected in our records microfilming process. We captured on 44 rolls of microfilm 156,349 pages of investigative reports during the Fiscal Year. VCIC provided the criminal justice community in Vermont and throughout the nation with 31,544 criminal record checks during the Fiscal Year. This amounts to over 600 searches, verifications and transmissions each week and is an 8% increase over that activity reported in FY 1982. 29.2%, or 9,220, resulted in the release of record information, while the remaining 70.8% resulted in "no record on file" responses. This ratio is very similar to that found in FY 1982.

The VCIC staff entered 1,189 wanted or stolen reports into the National Crime Information Center computer, which represents a 3% decrease over

the previous year. However, Vermont's 254,147 NCIC inquires represent a 40% increase in NCIC use over the previous year.

Eight (8) NCIC mandated audits were conducted by the VCIC staff concerning 3,839 records on file in the NCIC computer. These audits resulted in a 4% cancellation or "error" rate.

Court ordered record expungements decreased some 21.8% over those reported in FY 1982, as some 230 expungements were ordered during this Fiscal Year. Additionally, juvenile record purges were ordered in 192 cases this year, compared with the 237 reported in the previous year. The 4,078 mugshots received and filed represented a 20% decrease over the previous year.

A total of 806 General Broadcasts were issued by Vermont's law enforcement agencies for missing persons. Of these, 360 people (44%) were initiated by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. There were 122 active missing people as of 30 June 1983. During the month of issuance, 602, or 75%, were cancelled.

After two years of planning and preparation, the computerized Warrant System became a reality in December 1982. This system serves all municipal, county and state enforcement agencies, the Department of Corrections and the Courts. Monthly computerized reports list those persons for whom outstanding warrants are held by both their county of residence and by the court issuing the warrant. There were 2,273 outstanding warrants in the initial computer load and 2,393 active warrants on 30 June 1983.

The moving of the department to a new Headquarters facility at Waterbury dictated the need to re-create a Headquarters Dispatch Center. With a

complement of five dispatchers (two are newly created positions and three are reassigned from the Middlesex Station) the Headquarters Dispatch Service became operational at the end of this Fiscal Year.

Dispatching functions include providing criminal records around the clock, telecommunications functions, manning radiological and hazardous materials emergency reporting systems, and dispatching Headquarters assigned personnel. Headquarters Dispatchers also monitor the building fire and intrusion alarm systems.

An immediate need exists to create an additional Fingerprint Technician position. A good criminal indentification system is based on fingerprints, and the lack of unit staff compared with the work to be accomplished has created a void.

Presently, a VCOP employee is assisting within the Classification Unit. Although the assistance is helpful, this employee is with VCIC for only a six-month period. Special training of the employee is essential and repeating this process twice a year is counter-productive.

Overall, FY 1983 was a year which we can look back upon with pride -- pride in the sense that we noted improvement in all of our program areas. As a result, we look forward to FY 1984 with greater expectations for ourselves and the products we provide Vermont's citizens.